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Borough of Dukinfield

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1956



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BOROUGH OF DUKINFIELD
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1956

Chairman: Councillor Hitchen

Deputy Chairman: Councillor Howard

The Mayor: Alderman Saxon

Alderman Bown	Alderman Shaw
Councillor Mrs. Andrew	Councillor Gow
Councillor Betteridge	Councillor Healey
Councillor Cook	Councillor Jones
Councillor Denyer	Councillor Newton
Councillor Fieldhouse	Councillor Mrs. Senior
Councillor Woolley	

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:
Thomas Holme, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:
Leslie Buckley, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

Additional Public Health Inspector:
Alexander Handley, A.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Clerical Assistant - Elsie Heaton

Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Dukinfield.

To the Mayor, Chairman and Members
of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my ninth Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department.

In considering the vital statistics for the year, I would draw your attention to the Infant Mortality Rate, which, after two years at an unprecedented low level, rose to 35.86 per thousand related live births. The Birth Rate, which was 13.34, rose once again to 14.44 per thousand population. The number of deaths also increased during 1956 to 255, or a rate of 16.26 per thousand population.

The borough was free from any major epidemics during the year, whooping cough claiming most victims. I am glad to be able to report that we were clear of food poisoning outbreaks and dysentery.

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, became operative in January 1956 and a lot of the work of the department has been concentrated on the application of these Regulations. There is no doubt that the Public Health Inspectors have their work cut out to administer new legislation as well as carry out the routine work of the department. One of the fields which has of necessity been neglected is that of smoke abatement. The Clean Air Act, 1956, came into operation recently and I feel that every effort should be made to apply its principles, in order to rid the atmosphere of much harmful pollution.

In conclusion, may I express my thanks to the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Members of the Committee and Staff, for all the help and encouragement they have given me.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

T. HOLME

VITAL STATISTICS

Population 1951 Census (including Matley).....	18,451
Population 1956 (Registrar General's estimate)	18,230

Area in Acres	1,725
Rateable Value (1st April, 1956).....	£156,085

Number of deaths	255
Death Rate per thousand population	16.26

Number of live births	261
Live Birth Rate per thousand population	14.44

Number of still births	8
Still Birth Rate per thousand live and still births.....	29.99
Still Birth Rate per thousand population	00.43

Number of infant deaths	8
Infant Death Rate per thousand related live births	35.86

Number of maternal deaths	-
Maternal Mortality Rate per thousand related live and still births ..	NIL

PHYSICAL FEATURES

Dukinfield is situated on the left bank of the River Tame, which forms its northern and western boundary. The most populated part of the town lies to the northwest, where the river changes its direction and runs southwards.

The town itself is mainly situated on gradually sloping ground but the eastern end of the town, which is mainly rural in character, rises to a height of 700 feet. The subsoil is in some places loamy clay and in others sandstone and the outcrop the Permian system. Underneath there are some coal measures, but these are not worked.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The main industries in the town are cotton, engineering, boiler making, rope and electrical accumulator manufacturing. Several small factories have been established in the Gate Street area following its clearance of slum property. There are, in addition, a variety of other modern industries, products of the age in which we live and turning out such articles as plastics and rubber goods.

TABLE I

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY
DURING THE YEAR 1956

	England & Wales	Dukinfield
<u>Live Birth Rate</u> per thousand population	15.7	14.44
<u>Infant Death Rate</u> per thousand related live births	23.8	35.86
<u>Still Birth Rate</u> per thousand related live and still births	23.0	29.99
<u>Death Rate</u> (all causes) per thousand population	11.7	16.26

TABLE II

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES
AND INFANTILE MORTALITY FOR THE PERIOD 1931 - 1956

Year	Death Rate per thousand population	Birth Rate per thousand population	Infantile Mortality per thousand live births
1931- 1935	13.07 (average)	14.51 (average)	81.2 (average)
1936- 1940	13.87 (average)	14.47 (average)	57.74 (average)
1941- 1945	13.99 (average)	17.5 (average)	53.72 (average)
1946- 1950	13.75 (average)	17.28 (average)	41.29 (average)
1951- 1955	13.12 (average)	13.43 (average)	27.50 (average)
1956	16.26	14.44	35.86

TABLE III

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES
PER THOUSAND RELATED LIVE BIRTHS

Area	Infantile Mortality
England and Wales	23.8
Dukinfield	35.86

TABLE IV

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE
PER THOUSAND RELATED BIRTHS

Area	Maternal Mortality
DUKINFIELD	NIL

TABLE V

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS 0 - 1 YEAR
ACCORDING TO AGE AND CAUSE

Cause of death	Age at Death	Sex
Intracranial haemorrhage; tentorial tear; prematurity; gross maternal anaemia (twin)	1 day	M
Atelectasis; achondroplasia	2 days	M
Intracranial haemorrhage; tentorial tear; prematurity; gross maternal anaemia (twin)	4 days	M
Acute haemorrhagic disease of new born	5 days	F
Pneumonia	2 weeks	M
Meningitis	4 months	M
Congestive cardiac failure due to congenital cardiac abnormality	7 months	F
Acute broncho-pneumonia	8 months	M

TABLE VI

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS,

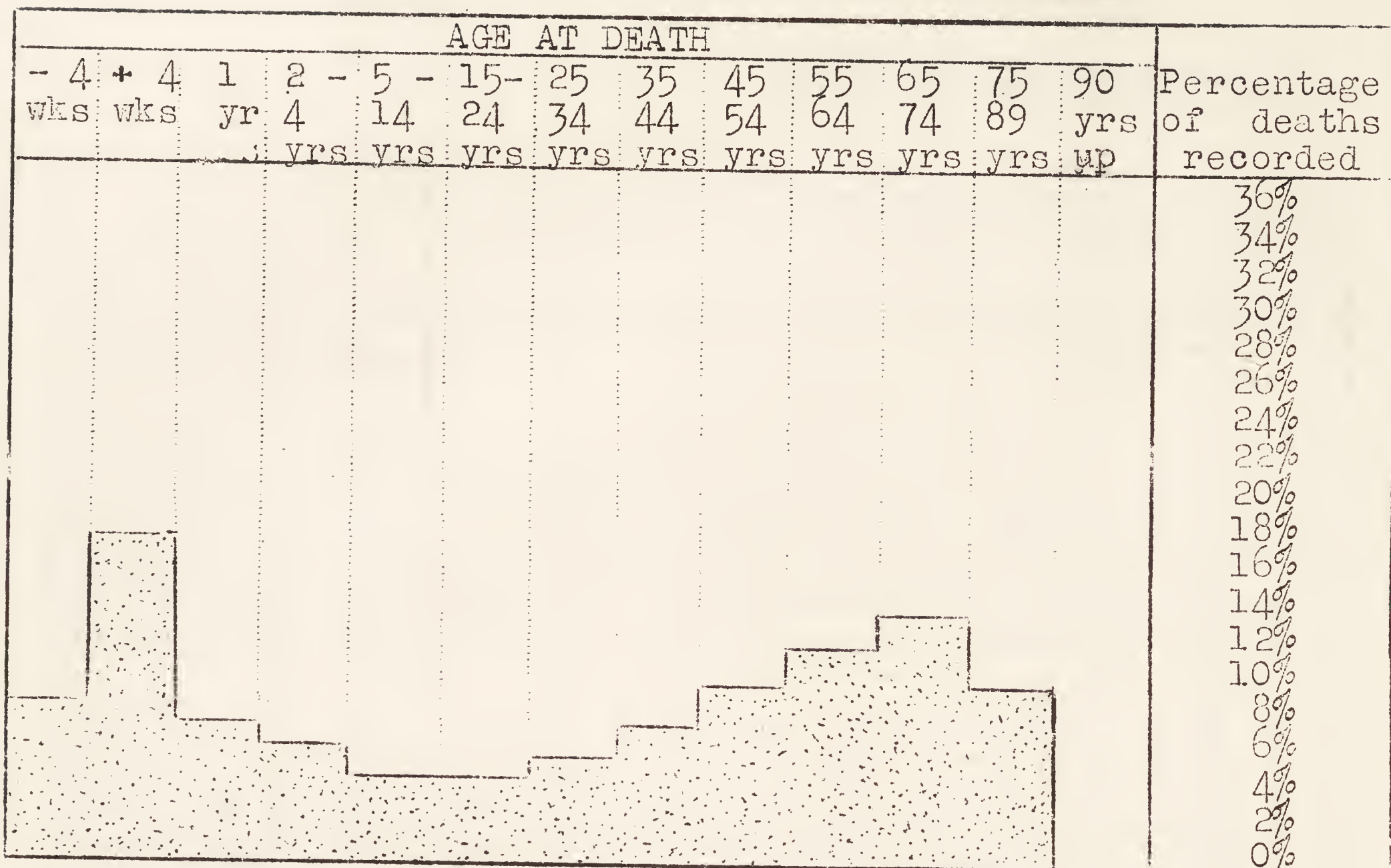
	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years
Respiratory Tuberculosis				
Other Tuberculosis				
Cancer, stomach				
Cancer, lung and bronchus				
Cancer, breast				
Cancer, uterus				
Cancer, other sites				
Leukaemia, aleukaemia				
Vascular lesions of C.N.S.				
Coronary disease, angina				
Hypertension, with heart d.				
Other heart diseases				
Other circulatory diseases				
Pneumonia	1	1		
Bronchitis				
Other respiratory diseases				
Ulcer of stomach, duodenum				
Nephritis and nephrosis				
Hyperplasia of prostate				
Congenital malformations		1		1
Other diseases	4	1		
Motor vehicle accidents				
All other accidents				1
Suicide				
TOTAL	5	3	-	2

TABLE VI

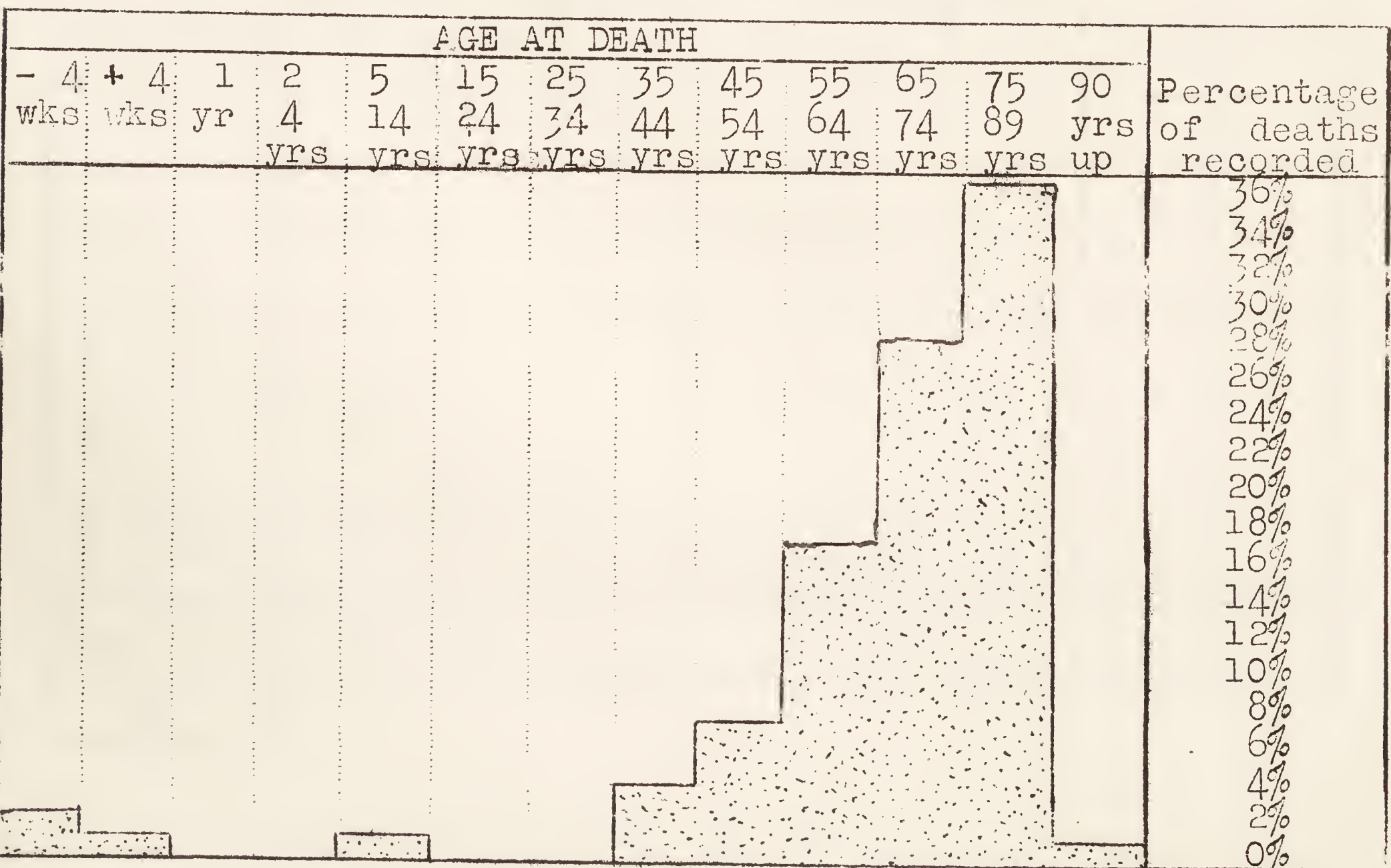
ACCORDING TO AGE AND CAUSE

15-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-69 years	70-74 years	75 yrs up	TOTAL	
								M	F
	1						1		2
			1					1	
				2	1	1	3	5	2
		1	1	4	2	1	1	10	
		2		2					4
			1	1		1			3
		1	1	8		6	4	13	7
				1					1
		1	1	5	3	14	23	17	30
		2	1	6	3	2	2	12	4
					1	1	1	1	2
			7	5	5	7	37	23	38
						2	3	1	4
		2	1	1	1	1	3	7	4
			1	4	5	3	5	14	4
				1					1
						1			1
				1	1		3	4	1
						1	1	2	
			1					1	2
			3	2	3	2	8	9	14
					1			1	
			1	2	2		2	1	7
		1	1						2
	1	10	21	45	28	43	97	122	133
								255	

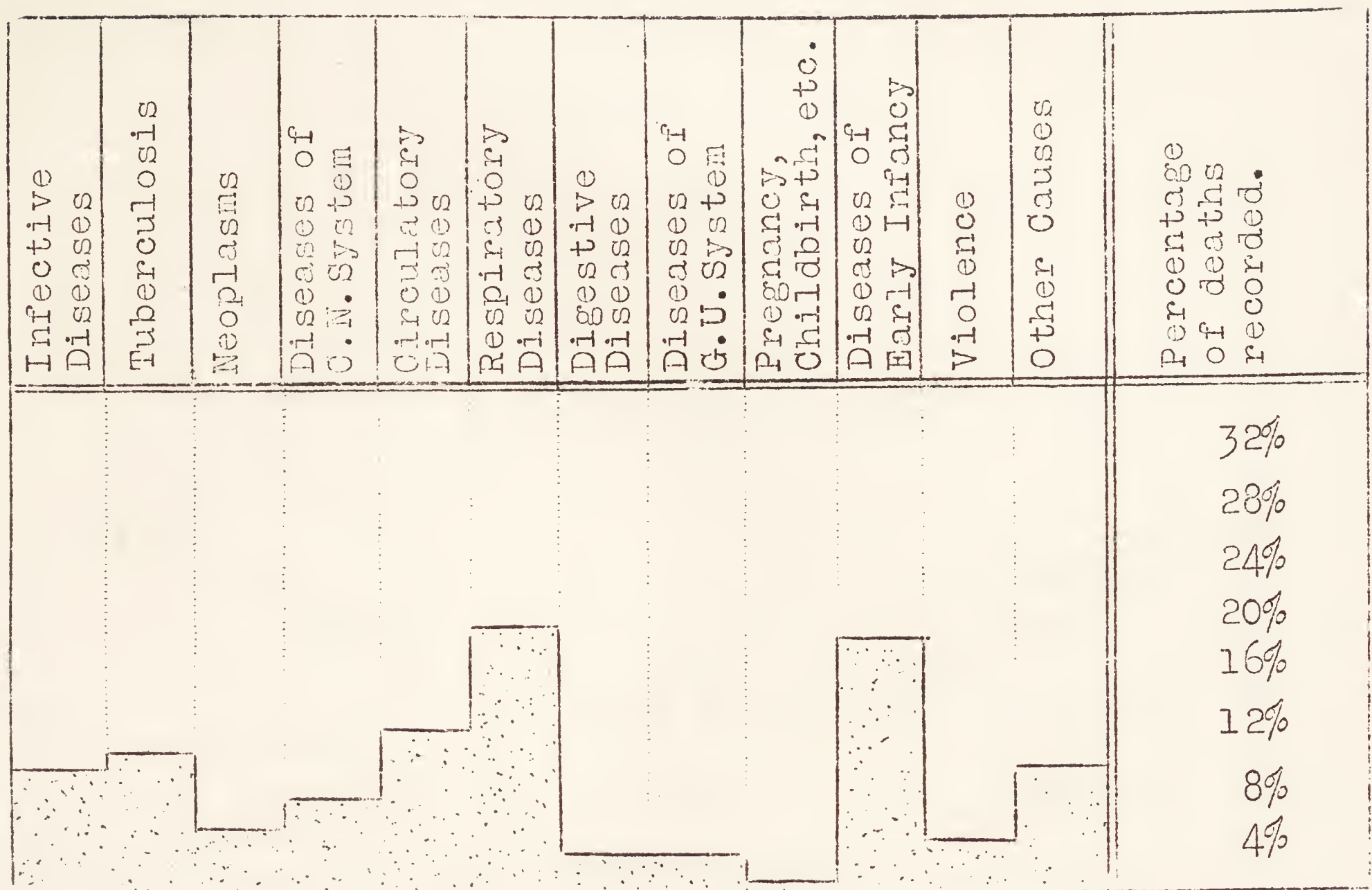
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS 1911-1915



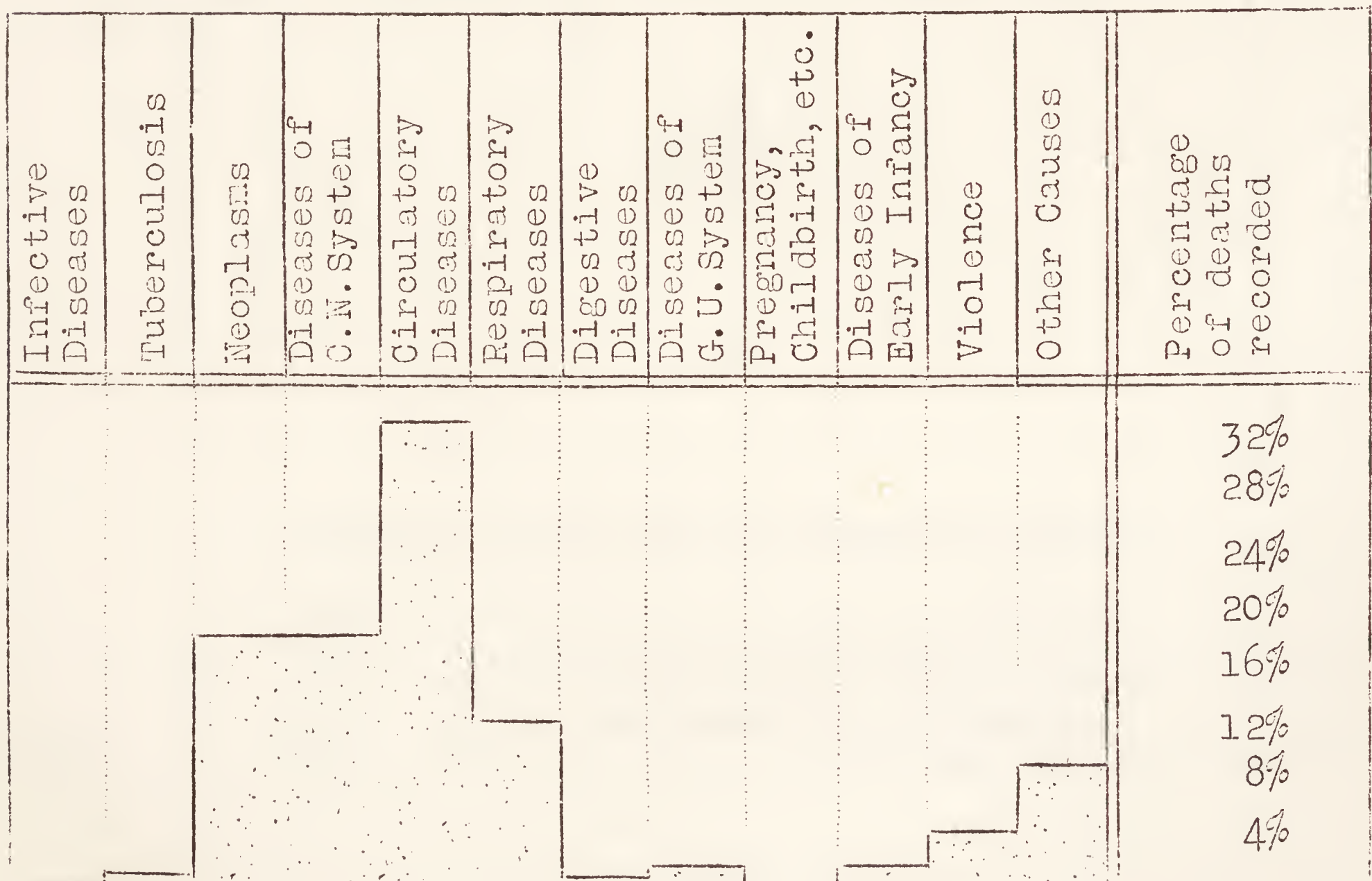
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS 1956



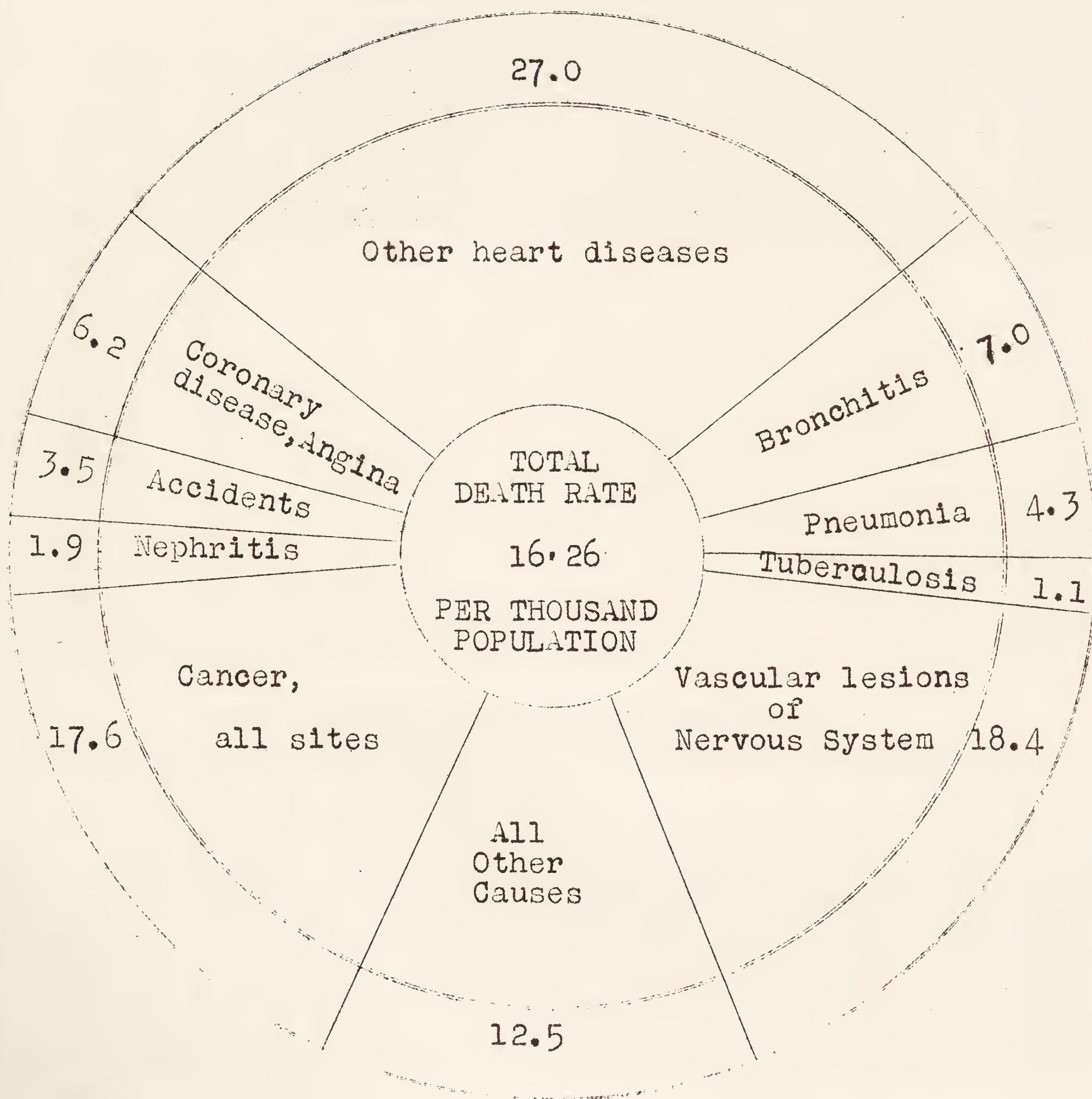
ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH, 1911 - 1915



ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH, 1956



DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES
(Percentage of Total Deaths)



Deaths Included in "All Other Causes"

Suicide	0.7
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	0.3
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	0.7
Congenital malformations	1.1
Other causes	9.0

TABLE VII
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

AGE	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Sc. Fever and Scarlatina	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Measles	Paralytic Poliomyelitis	Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Sonne Dysentery	Meningococcal Infection	Puerperal Pyrexia	Food Poisoning	TOTAL
Under 1				1	4										5
1 & 2 yrs.			1	1	8	1	1		1		2				15
3 & 4 yrs			1		8			1			2			1	13
5 - 9 yrs			1	2	11	1		1	2		4			1	23
10-14 yrs			1												1
15-24 yrs				1				1	2						4
25-44 yrs				4					4		3			1	12
45-64 yrs				6					1						7
65 yrs. and over				1											1
TOTAL	-	-	4	16	31	2	1	3	10	-	11	-	-	3	81
DEATHS				11					2	1					14

TABLE VIII

NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS OF T.B. CASES
DURING THE YEAR 1956

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Notifications	10	-
Deaths	2	1
Total number of Cases on Register 31.12.56	120	17

TABLE IX

HOUSING CIRCUMSTANCES OF T.B. CASES

Type of House	Type of house occupied when notified	Type of house occupied 31.12.56
V. Good (Corpn.)	44	81
V. Good (Other)	11	9
Good	19	11
F. Good	26	15
Fair	24	11
Poor	8	7
Bad	5	3

TABLE X

NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS OF T.B. CASES

Year	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	New Cases notified	Deaths	New Cases notified	Deaths
1937	19	18	4	2
1938	18	6	6	3
1939	17	14	6	-
1940	18	14	9	3
1941	12	9	6	3
1942	13	8	4	2
1943	12	8	7	4
1944	6	8	6	1
1945	13	7	3	-
1946	14	4	8	2
1947	10	7	3	2
1948	17	9	4	2
1949	17	8	3	1
1950	10	2	3	1
1951	18	5	3	1
1952	23	3	2	1
1953	20	3	2	-
1954	14	3	4	-
1955	15	2	-	1
1956	10	2	-	1

TABLE XI

NUMBER OF FAMILIES RE-HOUSED DURING THE YEAR
WITH AN ANALYSIS OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES

Reason for removal	New houses	Re-let houses	Bedsitters flats and bungalows	Total
Exchange to better class house		2		2
Relief of overcrowding				
Insufficient bedroom accommodation		11		11
Tuberculosis in family		1		1
Other medical reasons		1		1
Closing and Demolition Orders		26	10	36
Exchange to smaller house		2		2
Mutual exchanges		8		8
Staff		1		1
TOTAL	-	52	10	62

TABLE XII

NUMBER OF HOUSES REPRESENTED
AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION

Year	Number of houses represented
1947	26
1948	13
1949	12
1950	11
1951	15
1952	15
1953	13
1954	21
1955	49
1956	40

INFANT MORTALITY

During the year, there were 8 deaths of infants under 1 year old. Five of these were in their first two weeks of life and 5 suffered from either a congenital defect or prematurity. The picture this year has radically changed from that of 1954 and 1955, when only 3 infant deaths were notified.

DEATH RATE

There were 255 deaths during the year, of which 122 were males and 133 females. This figure is the highest recorded since 1951, a feature which is of little significance since it is not so important to know the number of deaths or the rate, but rather the ages to which people live before they contribute one unit to the total figure. As with last year's report, I have included a histogram showing the percentage of deaths in the various age groups and a comparative histogram for the period 1911-1915.

Analysis of the cause of death showed that heart disease continues to head the list with 85 cases during the year - an increase of 5 over the previous year's total. Deaths due to coronary disease fell by 7. Cancer claimed 45 victims and, of these, 10 were cancer of the lung - all males. There was more bronchitis this year and 30 deaths were ascribed to disease of the respiratory system.

The histograms on pages 10 and 11 show the change in the ages at death between 1911-1915 and the year under review, a change about which comment was made in my last report. This year, I would draw your attention to the changing pattern of disease in the borough which the histogram on page 11 is designed to demonstrate.

During the preparatory work for these comparative tables, one was struck by the lack of accuracy in the cause of death as shown on the older certificates, a fact which makes it difficult to assign deaths in the 1911-1915 period. However, a broad classification has been made from which it will be seen that the deaths from infectious disease and tuberculosis have fallen considerably, while there has been a marked increase in the percentage of deaths from cancer, diseases of the central nervous system and circulatory disease - in the latter group coronary thrombosis predominates as a single cause. The most marked reduction, however, is to be found in diseases of early infancy, which to-day represent less than 2% of total deaths.

It would appear that preventive medicine has played its part in changing the pattern of disease, particularly in the case of infectious disease, tuberculosis and infant mortality. The increased expectation of life and the speed and stress of this modern age have contributed to the increasing cancer deaths, coronary thrombosis and diseases of the nervous system.

BIRTH RATE

During 1955, the Birth Rate increased to 14.44 per thousand population, from 13.34 the previous year. This represents an increase in the total number of births by 19. Of these births, 129 were males and 132 were females.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

I am pleased to be able to report that there were no maternal deaths during 1956.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

1956 was a quiet year from an infectious disease point of view and only 81 cases were notified by the general practitioners or hospitals. Whooping cough produced the largest number of notifiable conditions, namely 31. Poliomyelitis was responsible for 4 cases of which 3 were non-paralytic; all the patients did well. Three cases of food poisoning were recorded in 1956; these were isolated cases of salmonella typhimurium which were unconnected with each other and in which the source of infection was not traced. The infectious diseases deaths were confined to pneumonia and tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of notifications fell to 10 in 1956 from 15 the previous year. There were no new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Table X is most encouraging and revealing, showing as it does a consistent drop in the deaths from all forms of tuberculosis. On the notification side, the fall has not been so consistent, although this year's figure of 10 is the lowest ever recorded.

TUBERCULOSIS (Contd)

The present methods of Tuberculosis prevention, supplemented in recent years by B.C.G. vaccination, are undoubtedly having some effect but prevention is a slow process and one which calls for the close co-ordination of all the services. I am pleased to say that, in this area, the co-operation of all the workers in this field is excellent.

HOUSING

I am indebted to Mr. Wensley, the Housing Manager, for compiling and supplying Table XI. There was a considerable drop in house-lettings during 1956, the total falling to 62 from 144 in 1955 and all of these were re-let houses. 36 were devoted to slum clearance and in 2 instances the letting was on medical grounds. 40 houses were represented as being unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense.

MILK SAMPLES

Dukinfield is in an area in which all milk sold is either heat treated or tuberculin tested. During the year, 22 samples of milk were examined and all but one proved to be satisfactory. In the latter case (from a producer in Lancashire), blood was found in the milk and the adverse report was notified to the authority concerned for the necessary action.

These samples were tested to find out whether the milk concerned had been effectively heat treated or whether it was free from tuberculosis. The fall in the number of non-pulmonary tuberculosis cases notified to Nil, and the negative sample results appear to be related and I would draw your attention to the fact that no new cases have been notified for two years.

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. M.T.B. Whitson, Engineer and Manager of the Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge and Dukinfield (District) Waterworks, for the following report on the quality and quantity of the Borough water supply during 1956.

"1. The quality and the quantity have both been satisfactory.

2. Bacteriological examinations of piped supplies:

<u>Type of Water</u>	<u>Samples taken and result</u>
----------------------	---------------------------------

Filtered water taken directly after filtration	6. Satisfactory
--	-----------------

Filtered water - tap samples taken at various points in the Borough.	65. Excellent
--	---------------

Raw	None
-------------	------

Chemical Analysis. .. .	See report on p.23
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3. Plumbo Solvency Calcium Carbonate added before filtration. Samples taken from same supply were quite satisfactory.

4. No form of contamination has presented itself.

5. Population supplied from public water mains:

(a) Direct to houses	18,230
(b) By means of standpipes	None.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS
OF THE BOROUGH'S WATER SUPPLY

Source (filtrate main tap sample) ..	Brushes
Date	24.1.56
pH Value	6.80
Colour in 2 ft. Glass Tube - mm Hazen solution.	2
Turbidity - Silica Standard - ppm.	NIL
Total solids dried at 110°C	-
Suspended solids dried at 110°C ..	-
Free acidity as CO ₂	2.8
Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	8.1
Hardness by soap test -	
Carbonate hardness	8
Non-carbonate hardness	38
Total	46
Combined Chlorine (CL ₂)	15.5
Nitrates - Nitric Nitrogen as N ₂ ..	0.32
Nitrites - Nitrous Nitrogen as N ₂ .	0.004
Free and Saline Ammonia as NH ₃ ..	0.237
Albuminoid Ammonia as NH ₃	0.033
Oxygen absorbed test, 4 hrs. at 27°C	-
Iron in solution as Fe	-
Total Iron as Fe	-
Manganese as Mn	0.15
Silica (SiO ₂)	11.2
Alumina (AL ₂ O ₃)	0.12
Alumina as Sulphate of Alumina ..	0.8
Lead as Pb taken up in 24 hrs. ..	0.25
REPORT: This sample is satisfactory	

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

This service continues to be administered by the Cheshire County Council, and a report will be found in a later section.

VENEREAL DISEASES

There is a centre at Ashton-under-Lyne General Hospital (Infirmary Section) for patients suffering from venereal diseases. This service is administered by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The area is covered by the Ashton, Hyde, Glossop group of hospitals and approximately 75 per cent of all hospital cases are treated at the Ashton General Hospital. The remaining 25 per cent are referred to the Manchester Hospitals or private nursing homes.

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

These are administered by Cheshire County Council and a report for 1956 will be found in a later section.

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B O R O U G H O F D U K I N F I E L D

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

for the year 1956

---oOo---

Public Health Department,
Town Hall, DUKINFIELD

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my 22nd Annual Report.

247 housing complaints were received, as against 342 in 1955, a reduction of 95. These complaints consist mainly of defects to old type cottage property. The reduction could be accounted for by the condemnation of individual unfit houses in the town.

During the year, 40 dwellinghouses of old type cottage property were found to be unfit for human habitation, as against 49 in 1955. Only 2 houses were demolished, as against 22 in the previous year. Gradually, the legacy of the industrial revolution building programme is being reduced. Since the year 1947, 215 houses have been condemned as unfit. 36 families from condemned property were re-housed during the year, as against 32 families in 1955.

4,341 visits of inspection and re-inspection were made during the year.

Slaughterhouses and meat inspection accounted for 478 visits. More details of meat inspection will be found in another portion of this report.

324 shops of various types exist in the Borough, 206 of this number are food shops of various types. 22 milk samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination, the results of which are included in the Medical Officer's portion of the report.

During the year, 61 visits were made in connection with atmospheric pollution. Reduction could be made by careful stoking and the provision in dwellinghouses of modern slow burning fuel type of approved grates, together with the greater use of coke, low temperature carbonisation fuel, gas or electricity.

During 1956, 18 waste water closets were converted to the fresh water carriage system, as against 15 in 1955. There are still 1,044 dwellinghouses with waste water closets in the borough, but 22 houses included in this number also possess a fresh water closet. The rate of conversion is slow but could be speeded up if small grants were given to owners.

In the Dukinfield Hall district of the town it is good to know that land on which stood many slum houses is being used for the erection of buildings to be used for industry.

Concluding this preamble to my report, may I thank the Chairman of the Health Committee, Councillor A. Hitchen; the Deputy Chairman, Councillor J. Howard and the ladies and gentlemen of the Health Committee for their whole hearted support during the past year; also to Dr. T. Holme, Medical Officer of Health, for his ever willing help; Mr. A. Handley, Additional Public Health Inspector for co-operation in carrying out duties in connection with the work of the Department, and to Miss E. Heaton for her efficiency and service to us.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

L. BUCKLEY

Public Health Inspector

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

General Sanitation

Mortuary	4
Water Supply	1
Drainage: primary visits	76
Drainage: re-inspections	230
Stables and piggeries.. .. .	2
Farms	3
Moveable dwellings.	7
Public Conveniences	142
Places of entertainment	6
Licensed premises	22
Metal dealers	5
Rodent control.	122
Atmospheric pollution.. .. .	61
Schools	11
Offensive trades	1
Hairdressers	1
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	233

Miscellaneous Acts and Orders

Petroleum Act.. .. .	39
Factories Act: Factories with power ..	112
Factories without power.	3
Bakehouses.. .. .	41
Workplaces.. .. .	4
Outworkers.. .. .	9
Shops Act	383
Pet Animals Act	2
Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders ..	7

Infectious Diseases

Visits and enquiries	44
Visits to Laboratory	41

Housing

Public Health Act: Primary visits.. ..	247
Public Health Act: Re-inspections.. ..	1143
Housing Act: Primary visits	89
Housing Act: Re-inspections	162
Housing Act: Verminous premises	26
Miscellaneous housing visits	37

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS (Contd.)

Meat and Food Inspection

Visits to slaughterhouses	478
Butchers	53
Canteens	23
Restaurants,	6
School Canteens.	45
Fried Fish Shops	36
Milk distributors	41
Fishmongers	7
Grocers	233
Greengrocers and fruiterers	36
Food preparing premises.	2
Ice Cream Premises	5
Miscellaneous food shops	32
Milk sampling	15
Hawkers' carts.. .. .	1
Miscellaneous food visits	<u>12</u>

TOTAL VISITS: 4341

INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING THE YEAR

1. (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).. .. 426
- (b) Number of inspections made for this purpose 1547
2. Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 194
3. (a) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 40
- (b) Number of dwellinghouses demolished as unfit for human habitation 2

INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING THE YEAR (Contd.)

4.	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	251
5.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which informal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..	194
6.	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:	
	(a) by owners	52
	(b) by local authority in default of owners	-

NOTICES SERVED - PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

Number of informal notices served	194
Number of informal notices complied with ..	251
Number of Statutory Notices served. . . .	53
Number of Statutory Notices complied with..	66

DRAINAGE AND DISINFESTATION

Number of rooms disinfected - infectious d.	54
Number of rooms disinfested - verminous p.	38
Number of blocked house WCs released	623
Number of blocked house gullies released ..	903
Number of blocked house drains released ..	1444

CONVERSION OF WASTE WATER CLOSETS
TO FRESH WATER CARRIAGE SYSTEM

Waste water closets converted (houses) ..	18
---	----

A recent survey of the town revealed that 1044 waste water closets still exist in the town. The number of conversions during the year was 18.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Food Shops

The new Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, came into force during the year. These regulations have long been desired and affect the occupiers of food premises and persons engaged in the handling of food. Each food shop has been inspected and the new regulations have been explained. It has been found that, in general, occupiers of food shops have been very co-operative regarding the provision of wash-hand basins and electrical refrigerators. In many cases, electrical counter display refrigerators have been fitted.

The number of visits is listed in the portion of the report dealing with visits and inspections. 13 notices have been complied with, as against 8 in 1955.

106 shops were registered for the sale of bottled milk. Owing to Government regulations, all milk sold is now bottled. This measure reduces external contamination and the day when milk roundsmen dipped a measure into a churn in an uncovered milk vehicle has now passed. All milk is now either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised. This ensures a safe supply of this very valuable food. 22 milk samples were taken by this department during the year.

A list of the various types of food shops is given below:

Grocers and general mixed	..	..	106
Bakers and confectioners	..	..	25
Butchers and pork butchers	..	..	20
Greengrocers.	..	..	14
Greengrocers/flowerists	..	..	2
Greengrocers/fishmongers.	..	..	2
Fishmongers	..	..	3
Fish Friers	..	..	18
Sweets, tobacco, ice cream	..	..	13
Cattle products..	..	..	2
Snack bar	..	..	1

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION (Continued)

School Canteens

These canteens are inspected regularly. The high standard of cleanliness and efficiency is maintained and tribute should be paid to all staff and canteen workers.

During the school holiday periods, these canteens are fumigated with Gammexane smokers, thus reducing a fly and insect pest population which might otherwise be present. Absence of flies and insect pests has been most noticeable.

Ice Cream

53 premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream, an increase of 1 on last year. The Ice Cream is stored in electrically operated refrigerators. The modern travelling sales vans operating in the town are fitted with a hot water supply. These vans are attractive in appearance and are maintained to a high degree of efficiency. The salesmen and women operating these vans wear clean overalls.

Licensed Premises

There are 34 licensed premises in the town. 22 visits were paid. It is the general trend for the older type of public house to be modernised and where found necessary, for modern sanitation to be installed. Several houses have been redecorated in contemporary style. Generally, they have been found to be kept in a very clean condition.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION (Continued)

Condemnation of tinned and other unsound foods

The following table gives the figures of tinned foods, etc., which have been condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Stewed Steak	8 tins	5½ lbs
Ox tongue !	7 tins	38 lbs
Bacon.. .. .	.. ..	9½ lbs.
Luncheon Meat	4 tins	1¼ lbs
Corned Beef	22 tins	55 lbs
Cooked Ham	4 tins	51 lbs
Tinned fruit	50 tins	55 lbs
Dates.. .. .	.. ..	24 oz
Tomatoes	19 tins	20 lbs
Evaporated milk	26 tins	13 lbs
Tinned fish, etc. . .	13 tins	6½ lbs
Oats .. .. .	.. ..	2½ lbs
Tinned vegetables.. ..	6 tins	5 lbs
Tinned chicken	2 tins	3 lbs
Dried Cabbage . .. .	.. ..	5 lbs
Pickles, etc.	5 tins	5 lbs
Jam and Marmalade.. ..	4 tins	4 lbs
Cake mixtures, etc. . .	4 packets	4 lbs
Flour . .. .	.. ..	16 lbs
Margarine.. .. .	.. ..	8 oz
Cheese Spread . .. .	.. ..	2 oz
Mustard	4 tins	1 lb

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES - SAMPLES

The following is an extract from a report received from the Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Cheshire County Council:-

"Attached hereto is a list of samples taken in your Borough and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis. Although five of the samples were of non-standard quality, the Analyst certified that, in each instance, the milk was of genuine but abnormal quality and therefore the position as a whole can be considered as very satisfactory".

STACEY HALLARD,
Chief Inspector.

Sample	Number Taken	Reported Against
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	5
Cascara Sagrada	1	
Dripping	2	
Friar's Balsam	1	
Honey, malt and fruit loaf	1	
Indian Brandee	1	
Milks	42	
Iodine	1	
Lard	1	
Rum	1	
Salmon paste	1	
Semolina	1	
Sulphur Ointment	1	
Sweets	1	
Tea	1	
Whiskey	1	

Article	Reported against	Action
	Genuine but abnormally deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of :-	
Milk	1.1%	None
Milk	2.3%	None
Milk	1.1%	None
Milk	2.3%	None
Milk	2.3%	None

MEAT INSPECTION

In July of 1954, two slaughterhouses re-opened, one in Alma Street for the killing of pigs and the other in Wharf Street for the killing of cattle, sheep, calves and pigs. Both slaughterhouses are well maintained and are kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

The Wharf Street slaughterhouse is equipped with an electrically operated saw, together with an electrically operated ozone plant. During the year, the old hand operated hoist was replaced with an electrically operated one.

The captive bolt pistol is used at the Alma Street Slaughterhouse for pigs but, at the Wharf Street slaughterhouse, sheep and pigs are stunned by the use of an electric stunner, the captive bolt pistol being used for cattle.

At each slaughterhouse, every facility has been given to the Meat Inspectors during periods when inspection was necessary. During the year, 478 visits were paid, as against 484 in 1955. The visits have taken up a considerable amount of my time, early morning visits being necessary during the winter months and peak killing periods. Owing to the fact that slaughtering takes place on Sundays at Wharf Street, Sunday afternoon inspection is necessary. This may take anything up to three to four hours; if inspection is not carried out on Sunday, then very early Monday morning inspections have to be made.

During the year, 4250 cattle excluding cows, 1617 cows, 169 calves, 32370 sheep and lambs and 3909 pigs were killed and inspected, as against 3131 cattle excluding cows, 1661 cows, 213 calves, 25348 sheep and lambs and 3972 pigs in 1955.

A list of animals killed and inspected is given overleaf; also shown are the amounts of meat and offal condemned. The animals slaughtered have been of a high standard. The percentages affected with tuberculosis are certainly much lower than they were during the last war and pre-war. This must be due to the use of tuberculin tests and the formation of attested herds. No horses are slaughtered in the Borough.

No cases of cysticercosis arose.

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected

Numbers killed and inspected
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCOSIS
Whole Carcases condemned
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis
TUBERCULOSIS
Whole Carcases condemned
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis
CYSTICERCOSIS

MEAT INSPECTIONand condemned in whole or in part

Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
4250	1617	169	32370	3909
1	-	-	-	5
256	240	-	512	83
6%	14.8%	-	1.5%	2.2%
1	5	-	-	-
154	410	-	-	124
3.6%	25.6%	-	-	3.1%
-	-	-	-	-

DRAINAGE AND DISINFESTATION

One workman is employed by this Department. His work consists of cleansing public conveniences, releasing blocked house gullies, house drains and water closets (fresh water and waste water). In addition, he carries out disinfection of rooms for infectious diseases (when necessary) and the disinfestation of verminous premises. I should like to make it quite clear that "verminous premises" does not mean that they are infested with bed bugs. It is very rare that bed bugs are come across these days, due in no small measure to the demolition of old insanitary dwellings and the continued use of D.D.T. and Gammexane preparations. The infestations mainly consist of minor infestations of cockroaches. These are dealt with by either D.D.T. or Gammexane preparations.

Where it is found to be possible for house drains, gullies and water closets to be released by plunging, it has been the policy of this local authority, for a considerable number of years, to provide a free service. The same policy applies for disinfection and disinfestation of house property. A charge is made for business premises.

Disinfectants and D.D.T. preparations are sold at a nominal cost, but old age pensioners are allowed disinfectant free, on production of pension books.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

During the year, 115 inspections were made, as against 157 during 1955, 9 visits being paid to outworkers' premises. No outworker worked under unsatisfactory conditions. 41 visits were paid to bake-houses. 12 written notices were served under this Act, concerning sanitary conveniences and in 9 cases, defects were remedied.

It was found that, in the case of "Means of Escape in Case of Fire", greater use has been made of the advice given by the Fire Prevention Officer and his staff and I should like to thank them for their co-operation during the past year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 (Contd.)

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted - NIL
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Auth.	3	3	-	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is to be enforced by Local Authority	98	112	12	
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Auth.	-	-	-	

Cases in which defects were found

	Number of cases in which defects			
	were found	were remedied	were referred to HMI	by HMI
Want of cleanliness				
Overcrowding				
Unreasonable temperature				
Ineffective drainage of floors				
Inadequate ventilation				
Sanitary conveniences:				
(a) insufficient				
(b) unsuitable or defective	11	9	-	7
(c) not separate	1	-	-	1
Other offences				
No occupiers were prosecuted during the year				

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Appended is a list of shops in the Borough. During the year these were visited and 383 visits and inspections were made.

Grocers and general mixed	106
Cattle Products	2
Bakers and confectioners	25
Butchers and pork butchers.. .. .	20
Greengrocers	14
Greengrocers/flowerists.. .. .	2
Greengrocers/fishmongers	2
Fishmongers	3
Fish friers	18
Sweets, tobacco, ice cream.. .. .	13
Chemists and non-dispensing chemists and herbalists.	6
Snack bars	1
Newsagents, stationers, fancy goods. ..	15
Drapers and outfitters.	19
Hairdressers	15
Boot and shoe repairers	11
Furniture dealers.. .. .	6
Florists	3
Radio, electrical goods, motor and cycle repairs and stores.	7
Hardware, plumbers', painters' and decorators' requisites.	16
Other shops	20
	<u>324</u>

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS AND ORDERS

Anthrax Order, 1938

No cases were reported during the year, but one Form A was served because of a suspected case, which was not proved to be Anthrax.

Swine Fever Order, 1938

One suspected case of Swine Fever was notified; on investigation it was proved to be negative.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS & ORDERS (Contd.)

Foot-and-Mouth Disease Order, 1938

It was not necessary to issue any licences during the year.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent Control

One full-time rodent operator is employed by the local authority. A regular inspection of the district is made for rodents. Treatment is given where necessary; dwellinghouses are treated free of cost, but a charge is made for business premises.

During the year, two sewer treatments were carried out with satisfactory results. In addition, treatment of the river banks took place.

The sewer treatments are carried out by the authority's own rodent operator with the help of a labourer loaned from the Borough Surveyor's Department. These treatments are invaluable in keeping down surface infestations.

It was not found necessary to take any legal proceedings during the year.

Type of property	Total number of properties:		
	In Area	Inspected	Found to be infested and treated by Local Authority
Local Authority	7	4	1
Dwellinghouses	6104	1922	108
Agricultural	12	12	-
Others	886	633	24
TOTAL	7009	2571	133

S T A F F

Divisional Health Office,
99, Grosvenor Street,
Stalybridge. -

Divisional Medical Officer
Clerk to Committee
Assistant County Medical Officer

- Thomas Holme, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
- P. W. Musther, F.C.I.S.
- Ena M. Cant, M.B., Ch.B.
(resd. June/56)
- P. V. Cant, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(apptd. Sept./56)
- A. Clough
- T. E. Darraugh, Misses J. Norton,
K. Sellars, O.B. Butterworth,
D. King (resd. February/56)
Mrs. I. Hellar (apptd. March/56)

Chief Clerk
Clerical Assistants

Ambulance Supervisor

- J. Roebuck.

Health Visitors
(Stalybridge)

- Miss D. P. Flint,
Miss C. Makin,
Miss M. Slack,
Miss F. Richardson (resd. June/56)
Miss E. E. O'Gara (Apptd. July/56)

(Dukinfield)

- Miss W. Grinstone
Miss W. E. Beresford
Miss C. Hellings

District Nurses
(Stalybridge)

- Mrs. E. H. Slater,
Miss Cameron (resd. April/56)
Miss A. Wright (resd. April/56)
Miss D.H. Garner (apptd. May/56)
Miss D.M. Thompson (apptd. May/56)

(Dukinfield)

- Miss E. Ambler
Miss O. Morton

Midwives
(Stalybridge)

- Miss N. Robinson
Mrs. F. Dent
Miss H. Sowerbutts

(Dukinfield)

- Miss A. Lees,
Miss L. Bradley

Authorised Officer

- J. Thompson

Physiotherapist

- Mrs. C. Cooke

Dental Surgeons

- Miss L. Kippen, L.D.S., D.P.D.
(part time basis - Stalybridge)
- Mr. J. Lancashire, L.D.S.
(part time basis - Dukinfield)

Specialists

Ophthalmic Surgeon

- B. Boas, M.D.

Orthopaedic Surgeon

- J. L. Mangan, F.R.C.S.

Gynaecologist - Stalybridge

- W.E.C. Thomas, M.B., Ch.B.,
M.R.C.O.G.

Tuberculosis Physician

- E. Ratnor, M.D., D.P.H.

Ear, Nose & Throat Surgeon

- E. M. Innes, F.R.C.S., D.L.O.

General Practitioners

attending Welfare Centre,
Dukinfield on a sessional
basis.

- G. S. Hargrave, M.B., Ch.B.,
M.R.C.O.G., D.Obs.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

The three Welfare Centres in the Division are situated as follows:-

Dukinfield - King Street, Dukinfield.

Stalybridge - Mechanics' Institute,
- New Clinic, Millbrook.

Sessions are held as follows:-

King Street - Wednesday mornings and afternoons
and Thursday afternoons

Millbrook - Monday afternoons

Mechanics' Institute - Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons

Dukinfield Welfare Centre

The number of new cases attending the clinic increased once again although the total attendances showed a slight fall. Even so the figure of almost 4,000 can be regarded as satisfactory, indicating as it does the popularity of this service with the mothers of the town. There were 267 births in Dukinfield during the year and 224 new cases came to the clinic. While these figures are not strictly comparable, it is reasonable to assume that approximately 84% of the babies were brought to the Child Welfare Clinics, the same percentage as in 1955.

During the year preparation classes were started for the expectant mothers. These were given by Mrs. W.R. White who was helped by the midwives and health visitors. The classes proved very popular and altogether 161 expectant mothers attended. Surveys on this type of work have proved its value and I am convinced that expectant mothers should be given every encouragement to attend. The Committee was wholeheartedly behind the scheme and provided the equipment.

I would like to mention at this point that as a result of the hard work put in by the health visitors, which was considerably assisted by the Voluntary Committee, a projector and screen were purchased in July for the display of films connected with health education. It is proving beneficial in this field.

Mechanics' Institute

Of the 308 Stalybridge babies born during 1956, 264 or 86% were brought to either the Stalybridge or Millbrook Clinics for routine examination and advice.

We were all very sorry to lose the services of Dr. E. M. Cant who resigned on medical grounds early in the year after devoting eight years to the health of the pre-school children in the town. Dr. Cant was the first medical officer to be appointed by the County in this area, following the transfer of the Child Welfare services from Stalybridge under the National Health Service Act and the work she did was greatly appreciated not only by the mothers but also by the clinic staff. We were fortunate when her husband, Dr. P. V. Cant was appointed to succeed her in September.

A second change of staff occurred when Miss Richardson resigned after a period of twelve months in the town. She was succeeded by Miss O'Gara.

In the building itself, redecoration of the weighing room was completed. This was made necessary because of repairs to the building due to dry rot. A new water heater was installed so that one is now able to turn on the tap marked "hot" with some degree of confidence as to the temperature of the resultant effluent!

Millbrook

The advantages of the clinic to the mothers in this area are emphasised in the total number of attendances at the welfare sessions. Altogether there were 1,453 attendances during the year of children under five - a very good figure.

The building was completely redecorated internally and minor modifications were made including the installation of an extractor cowl over the sterilizing bench. During the year Miss Flint and the voluntary workers raised money for the purchase of a projector for use in health talks. Health education is becoming more and more important in the prevention of ill health and in promoting the wellbeing of the individual and a projector of the type purchased is invaluable in this field.

Voluntary Workers

Once again on behalf of the Committee and the nursing staff I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the work so willingly and cheerfully given at the Dukinfield, Stalybridge and Millbrook clinics by the voluntary workers during the year.

General

As with the clinics there were staff changes in the Divisional Office. Mrs. D. King resigned early in the year and she was succeeded by Mrs. I Hellar who took up her appointment at the beginning of March.

During 1956 the total livebirths in the Division decreased from 611 in 1955 to 575. Of the births notified 59.2% took place in hospital - a fall of almost 10% over previous years. This is possibly explained by the fact that certain maternity beds at the Lake Hospital were closed during the year because of structural repairs to the wards. Unless an emergency or complicated, admission to hospital for confinement was primarily on a certificate from me on the social circumstances of the mother and during the year 36 of these certificates were granted following investigation.

The testing of pre-school children for deafness continued and this has proved very popular with the mothers.

	1955	1956
Total births in the Division - livebirths.....	611	575
- stillbirths.....	17	14
Total no. transfers into the Division.....	94	79
Total no. Welfare Sessions held.....	277	276
Total no. children attending for 1st time 0-1 year..	476	488
Total no. of attendances..... 0-1 year..	7227	6602
Total no. of attendances..... 1-2 years.	1511	1547
Total no. of attendances..... 2-5 years.	1670	1519
Total no. of visits to new births.....	567	605
Total no. of secondary visits.....	7889	7650
Total no. of other visits.....	2717	1428

TABLE A.

Child Welfare Clinics

Quarter	March			June			Sept.			Dec.		
Clinic	S/B	D/F	M/B	S/B	D/F	M/B	S/B	D/F	M/B	S/B	D/F	M/B
New Cases 0-1 yr.	53	46	23	63	63	11	54	55	17	35	60	8
Total 0-1 yr.	766	627	244	759	717	222	754	776	215	646	720	156
Attend-1-2 yrs.	210	126	65	191	169	49	163	146	47	155	157	69
ances 2-5 yrs.	172	96	125	149	158	114	138	124	73	141	155	74

The following table indicates the total births in the Division and the place of confinement:-

TABLE B.

	<u>Dukinfield</u>						<u>Stalybridge</u>					
	1956	<u>Live</u> 1955	1954	1956	<u>Still</u> 1955	1954	1956	<u>Live</u> 1955	1954	1956	<u>Still</u> 1955	1954
Lake Hospital	95	107	84	7	2	2	120	186	174	5	5	7
Other Mater- nity Homes	71	62	48	-	1	-	53	68	42	-	-	2
Domiciliary confinement	101	68	68	1	5	1	135	120	115	1	4	3
Total	267	237	200	8	8	3	308	374	331	6	9	12

Welfare Foods

The sale of foods has continued satisfactorily from the clinics and divisional office, although I would again stress that the amount of storage space available is very limited. I would like to thank the voluntary workers in Dukinfield who co-operated with us and sold the food in the clinic on our behalf.

The following table summarises the sale of foods during the year:-

TABLE C.

Quarter	March		June		Sept.		Dec.		Total	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
National) @ 10½d dried) @ 4/-d milk) free	2775 10 -	3269 18 8	4104 10 4	3262 23 10	4102 15 24	3169 7 33	3777 20 9	3136 40 1	15758 55 37	12836 88 52
Cod liver oil	854	899	749	786	782	794	1036	982	3421	3461
A & D. tablets	354	374	380	388	385	383	359	371	1478	1516
Orange) @ 5d Juice) free	3679 16	4115 2	4248 19	5036 13	5522 15	4954 2	4280 28	3995 3	17729 78	18100 20

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics

The Ante-natal clinic dealt with 47 new cases during the year and 20 patients attended the post-natal clinic; the total attendances showing a decrease to 189. The routine blood testing for Rh. factor and the Wasserman reaction continued.

<u>Ante-natal Clinics</u>	1955	1956
No. of sessions held.....	27	26
No. of new cases.....	36	47
No. of attendances.....	221	165
No. of patients on whom Rh. factor was investigated....	29	19
No. of patients on whom a Wasserman test was performed.	26	24

Post-natal Clinics

No. of new cases.....	25	20
No. of attendances.....	41	24

SPECIALIST CLINICS

It is most essential when running Child Welfare sessions to have the backing of specialist clinics where cases can be referred for consultants opinion and advice and although the numbers referred under 5 years of age appear to be small this is no reflection on the great value of this type of clinic.

<u>Ophthalmic (under 5 years)</u>	1955	1956
New cases.....	32	21
Total attendances.....	93	64

<u>Ear, Nose & Throat (under 5 years)</u>		
New cases.....	10	22
Total attendances.....	10	22

Physiotherapy (under 5 years)

A large amount of most useful work is carried out at the physiotherapy sessions and altogether 1132 attendances were made during 1956.

Total attendances for interview by Orthopaedic Surgeon.	142	116
Total attendances at Physiotherapist's Clinic.....	408	294
Total attendances for U.V.R. treatment.....	929	838

DENTAL TREATMENT

	1955	1956
Ante-natal patients - new cases.....	4	3
- attendances.....	12	11
Post-natal patients - new cases.....	-	7
- attendances.....	-	21
Children under 5 yrs. - new cases.....	21	28
- attendances.....	23	45
Dentures supplied.....	2	4

DAY NURSERIES

The total attendances showed an increase over the 1955 figure due in the main to an increase in the 0-2 year groups. The average attendance per day was 32 against 31 last year and the waiting list also increased. The County average of the cost per child/day remained as 1955 but for the first time in two years the rate at the Dukinfield nursery increased.

During the year there were two staff changes following on the resignation of a nursery assistant and the cook. We were fortunate in being able to make two good appointments. For many years the cooking facilities have been far from sufficient to cope with the number of meals prepared and the Maternity and Child Welfare and Nursing Services sub-committee recommended the purchase of one large cooker to replace the two small ones. This has now been done with a marked improvement in the cooking arrangements and also the temper of the cook!

I would draw the attention of the Committee to the fact that the nursery is a prefabricated one which has outlived its expectation of life by many years and as a result constant attention is required to keep it on its feet.

	1955	1956
Total attendances...0-2 years.....	2161	2326
2-5 years.....	5052	4979
Average attendance per child for 12 mths.(in days)		
0-2 years.....	154	179
2-5 years.....	201	185
Average attendance per day.....	31	32
New cases admitted.....	16	21
Waiting list as at 31/12/56.....	4	10
No. of mothers in employment.....	37	35
No. of medical examinations carried out.....	39	60

TABLE D

Year	1950/51	1951/52	1952/53	1953/54	1954/55	1955/56
County Average child/day	9/6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d	9/3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	11/3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	11/7d	11/11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	11/11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d
Dukinfield child/day	9/6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d	9/11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d	11/4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d	11/8d	11/8d	13/- $\frac{1}{2}$ d
% attend- ance County Average	77%	79%	71.5%	79%	84%	87%
Dukinfield	91%	94%	87.5%	89%	87%	86%

FACTORY NURSERIES

The supervision of the following factory nurseries is the responsibility of the Cheshire County Council and your Medical Officer visits them at frequent intervals:-

Staley and Millbrook Limited
Victor Mill Limited
Robert Byrom (Stalybridge) Ltd.

MIDWIFERY

The Committee has had very little work in connection with the midwives in the area who are administered centrally. The County vehicle used by Miss Sowerbutts which received normal maintenance throughout the year is rapidly approaching the time when its replacement will be necessary.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

For the third year there was a fall in the number of children vaccinated against smallpox in spite of every effort by the health visitors to get the mothers to take their children to their own family doctor or to the clinics. I think that one of the reasons for this may be found in the fact that once more the clinics were suspended during part of the summer.

The number of children immunised against diphtheria also shows a fall when compared with the peak year of 1954 and once again I would like to stress to parents the importance of this form of protection which alone has been responsible for our comparative freedom from diphtheria since the war. Not only is immunisation offered by the doctors in the two towns but sessions are also held in the welfare clinics and also in the schools at the routine medical inspections.

TABLE E.

Vaccinations - 1956

Age at 31.12.56	- 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 - over	Total
Born in year	1956	1955	1954-52	1951-42	Before 1941	
Vaccinated	168	8	18	24	25	243
Re-vaccinated	-	-	-	4	22	26

The figures for the seven complete years since vaccination ceased to be compulsory are as follows:-

1949	-	76
1950	-	223
1951	-	350
1952	-	459
1953	-	611
1954	-	318
1955	-	280
1956	-	269

Diphtheria Immunisation
1942 - 56

The following table shows the number of children at 31st December, 1956 who had completed a course of immunisation at any time since 1st January, 1942:-

TABLE F.

Age at 31.12.56. i.e. born in year	Under 1 1956	1 - 4 1955-1952	5 - 9 1951-1947	10-14 1946-1942	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injection (whether primary or booster) A. 1952 - 1956	67	892	1070	412	2441
B. 1951 or earlier	-	-	1252	1850	3002

	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Total no. of children immunised by general practitioners at their own surgeries	155	193	166	136	111	145	153
Total no. of children immunised at clinics	348	480	650	417	237	327	235
Total	503	673	816	553	348	472	388

Total no. of children immunised against whooping cough only - 4

Polionyelitis Immunisation

The scheme for the vaccination of children against polio-myelitis was inaugurated during the year. The vaccine prepared in this country is a modified type of that manufactured in America and two injections of 1 c.c. are necessary, given at an interval of not less than three weeks. Owing to the limited amount of vaccine available the Ministry of Health selected the

groups to be vaccinated from the children born between 1st January, 1947 and 31st December, 1954. Consents were received from the vaccination of 1283 or 26% of this age group and sufficient vaccine was made available to vaccinate 141 children. No adverse reactions were noted and as a result the fears of many parents were proved groundless; so much so that at the time of writing many requests are being made for vaccination by parents who did not originally give their consent.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Staff difficulties occupied the attention of the Committee during the early months of the year, but these were eventually resolved when two drivers were dismissed following an appeal to the disciplinary Sub-Committee of the County Health Committee. The administration of the service has run much more smoothly since and in my opinion this has been to the benefit of the patients carried.

There was an increase during the year in the number of patients carried which resulted in a corresponding rise in the total journeys and mileage.

In July the Committee considered a report on the cost of repairs to the vehicles and the system which had been in operation for the last eight years was changed. Two new repair garages were nominated for this work, and no unforeseen difficulties have so far been met.

Early in the year the County Council took over the responsibility for obtaining tenders for the supply of uniforms - a job which originally was the responsibility of the Divisional Health Committee. One set of uniform has been acquired through this central purchasing system but there was a considerable delay in delivery. It is hoped that subsequent orders will be despatched more expeditiously.

The abuse of the service was discussed in October and as a result an approach was made to the Hospital Management Committee and the General Practitioners. This, I think, has had the desired effect.

A step of major importance to the County, the Divisional Committee and indeed the public was discussed at Crewe in December. This was the use of radio-control and although the preliminary meeting in December of representatives of the Divisional Committees and the County Council was a long one no concrete proposals have yet been made.

TABLE G.

Stalybridge

		No. of vehicles	Total No. Journeys	Total No. patients carried	No. of Accident & Emergency Journeys inc. in col. 5	Total Mileage
DIRECTLY	Amb.	2	1987 +(69)	4485 +(71)	+ 28	25,598 +(223)
PROVIDED	Cars	2	1573 +(102)	4281 +(103)	+(7) 55	15,458 +(1733)

Dukinfield

DIRECTLY	Amb.	as	1181	2766	15	16,248
PROVIDED	Cars	S/bridge	883	2778	37	10,450

+ Passengers not included in total picked up outside the administrative County other than same day returning out-patients.

Comparative Table of Journeys etc.

Year	Journeys	Patients	Mileage	Accidents
1949	5929	8238	27052+	414
1950	6502	11140	58221	555
1951	7235	11812	61450	587
1952	7013	12139	63094	592
1953	5640	11377	60864	161
1954	5895	12199	54460	175
1955	5457	13026	61076	136
1956	5624	14510	67754	135

+ Stalybridge figures only

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

Tuberculosis

The Committee has always taken an interest in the prevention of tuberculosis and I am glad to be able to report that the number of new notifications fell to 25. The total number of cases is now 295 against 288 last year. In the field of general preventive measures both Stalybridge and Dukinfield Housing Committee have continued to give priority to the rehousing of tuberculous patients living in overcrowded or insanitary conditions, the Health Visitors visit and advise on general health measures and a close liaison is maintained with the Chest Clinic. In addition nursingrequisites are available through the loan cupboard.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
On Register at 31.12.56.	148	115	17	15	295
Notified during 1956	13	9	2	1	25

Deaths from Tuberculosis

Age

0	-	1 year	-	-	-	-
1	-	5 years	-	-	1	1
5	-	15 years	-	-	-	-
15	-	45 years	1	2	-	3
45	-	65 years	1	1	1	3
65		and over	-	2	-	2

B.C.G.

The work of vaccination with B.C.G. now a routine measure as a complement to the normal preventive measures, continued throughout the year. It will be noted that there was a substantial increase in the number of school children and contacts vaccinated. By the end of the year a total of 957 schoolchildren and contacts had received B.C.G., a figure which is being added to each quarter, and it is also of interest to note that on testing those vaccinated in previous years all proved to be still protected. The acceptance rate however fell to 65% which is disconcerting. Not all children tested required vaccination and those who showed positive mantoux tests were referred to the School Medical Officer for a special examination when he next visited the school.

During the year arrangements were also made for an X-ray examination by the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit when it was in the area of these children. Altogether eight cases showed some abnormality of which one suffered from active pulmonary tuberculosis and was admitted to hospital.

TABLE H.

	School children	Contacts
Number	718	207
Consents	431	166
% Consents	65	
Mantoux Positive	111	12
% Positive	26.27	7.22
No. vaccinated	293	121

NURSING REQUISITES

The following items of nursing equipment have been issued from the stores based on the Ambulance Depot, King Street, Stalybridge, and on the office of the Authorised Officer, Dukinfield.

Steam kettles	1	Feeding cups	1
Bed cradles	2	Water beds	1
Air rings	21	Wheel chairs	11
Back rests	15	Crutches	6 prs.
Urinals	23	Bed pans	45
Commedes	2	Mackintosh sheets	17
Mattresses	1	Blankets	3
Douche cans	1		

CONVALESCENT HOME TREATMENT

Four applications for a reduction in the charge were received and considered by the Committee and in all cases this was reduced.

A sum of £125 was once again granted by the County Health Committee for the financial assistance of persons requiring Convalescent Home treatment within the Division. Arrangements are still in operation with the four Convalescent Homes, two at Southport, St. Anne's and Marple. 11 patients were admitted during the year - 7 adult females, 3 adult males and 1 female child. 2 of the patients paid the whole cost of treatment and 9 received financial assistance.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The number of staff was increased during the year to 14 full time and 18 part time domestic helps, all of these being engaged in a temporary capacity. This was found necessary to cater for the increasing demand which is being placed on this service. Altogether 218 cases received assistance of which the majority (191) were aged and chronic sick. There is no doubt that we have not even yet reached our peak and as the proportion of old people in the population increases so will the work of the domestic helps. This service is continuing to save many hospital beds at a more economical cost though I would point out here that many of the cases dealt with should have been in hospital but were unable to obtain a bed.

Two applications for a reduction in the charge were received and considered by the Committee neither of which were reduced.

A sitter-in service is now available for those cases where attention is required at night for a limited period. Altogether 6 cases have received help for a total of 771½ hours.

<u>No. of cases attended by Domestic Helps</u>					
	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
(a) Maternity cases, sick and nursing mothers.....	6	11	12	16	12
(b) General sickness.....	20	19	19	27	25
(c) Aged and chronic sick.....	191	164	137	118	104
(d) Tuberculosis cases.....	1	2	-	-	-
	218	196	168	161	141

It will be noticed that though the total cases attended increased by 22, the working hours increased by 2,625 to 37,741 and the average number of cases attended weekly was 130.

191 of the total 218 were long-term continuation cases of the aged person or chronic sick type, a percentage of 87.61, an increase of 2.94% over the previous year. The number of maternity and nursing mother cases decreased by 5 and general sick cases stayed roughly the same at 20. In addition service was given to one tuberculosis case.

A total income from cases in the year was £1,146. 4.5d.

REPORT OF THE DULY AUTHORISED OFFICER, MR. J. THOMPSON,
IN RESPECT OF WORK CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE AREA OF THE
STALYBRIDGE AND DUKINFELD HEALTH DIVISION DURING
THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

1. Precis of cases dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

	Male	Female
Cases dealt with under Sec. 20, Lunacy Act 1890, i.e. admitted to hospital as cases of urgency on the order of the authorised officer	1	-
Cases dealt with under Sec. 21, Lunacy Act 1890, i.e. admitted to hospital on the order of a magistrate for observation for 14 days	4	7
Cases dealt with under Sec. 16, Lunacy Act 1890, i.e. certified as being of unsound mind.	10	7
Cases dealt with under Sec. 1, Mental Treatment Act, 1930, i.e. admitted to hospital as voluntary patients.	2	4

In addition to the above the following cases were dealt with by the authorised officer under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts:-

2 male and 3 female cases were reported to the Authorised Officer as being suspected cases of unsound mind but on investigation were found to be suffering from senility and their admission to chronic sick wards of hospitals was arranged.

4 male and 7 female patients were treated at clinics as out patients during the year thus obviating the necessity for their admission to hospital.

2 female cases were reported to magistrates by the Authorised Officer but after investigating the cases the magistrates decided to dismiss the information without taking further action.

8 male and 6 female cases were reported to the authorised officer but after investigation were found to be not of unsound mind and no further action was taken.

2 female cases, while awaiting admission to hospital, recovered from their mental illness and their names were removed from the waiting list.

1 female case, while awaiting admission to hospital committed suicide.

2. Visits were made to the homes of persons in mental deficiency colonies in order that reports on home circumstances of such patients could be given to the County Medical Officer of Health.
3. Five admissions to chronic sick wards were arranged for various general practitioners in the district.
4. Arrangements were made for the admission of three cases to Part III accommodation on behalf of the County Welfare Officer.
5. Domiciliary supervision visits have been made to male mentally deficient patients in the area at regular intervals throughout the year.
6. Three cases were admitted to Mental Deficiency Colonies.
7. Sixty items of nursing equipment have been issued from store during the year as detailed elsewhere in the report of the Divisional Medical Officer. ,

